Message Text

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UNCLAS PARIS 00941

E.O. 11652 N/A TAGS: EAIR, FR

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: SELF-POLICING BY CARRIERS

- 1. AT AIR FRANCE INVITATION ALL INTERNATIONAL CARRIERS REPRESENTED IN PARIS MET ON JANUARY 7 AND AGREED SET UP REGIONAL COMMITTEES TO INVESTIGATE ANY COMPLAINTS OVER MALPRACTICES ENGAGED IN BY CARRIERS. TWA AND PAN AM TELL US REPS OF AIRLINES FROM MIDDLE EAST COUNTRIES ANNOUNCED THEY WOULD NOT SIT ON COMMITTEE FOR MIDDLE EAST IF EL AL WAS A MEMBER; THIS PROBLEM WAS FINALLY RESOLVED BY MAKING EL AL A MEMBER OF NORTH ATLANTIC COMMITTEE. OTHER MEMBERS OF NORTH ATLANTIC COMMITTEE BESIDES TWA CHAIRMAN AND EL AL ARE AIR FRANCE, AIR CANADA, AIR MEXICO, AND PAN AM.
- 2. REPS OF AIRLINES FROM MIDDLE EAST ABSTAINED ANYWAY IN VOTE ON CREATION OF COMMITTEES, OSTENSIBLY ON GROUNDS THAT SINCE PROCEEDINGS WERE CONDUCTED IN FRENCH THEY HAD TO AWAIT ENGLISH TRANSLATION BEFORE THEIR HEAD OFFICES COULD STUDY MATTER AND TAKE A DECISION. PIA REP ALSO ABSTAINED. UNCLASSIFIED

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3. TWA REP TELLS US THAT PURPOSE OF ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMITTEES IS TO ENABLE CARRIERS TO ENGAGE IN SELF-POLICING IN ORDER IDENTIFY AND IF POSSIBLE BRING ABOUT ELIMINATION OF MALPRACTICES. SUCH MALPRACTICES COULD INCLUDE UNFAIR ADVERTISING AS WELL AS SUCH EVIDENT VIOLATIONS AS TICKET REBATING, FOR EXAMPLE.

COMMITTEE WILL DISCUSS AND INVESTIGATE COMPLAINTS LODGED BY CARRIERS AND IF UNABLE ON ITS OWN TO BRING ABOUT ELIMINATION OF MALPRACTICES WILL REFER CASES TO IATA AND/OR TO THE FRENCH AUTHORITIES (DGAC). GAMMON

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